

PCB

18 January 1963

SC

Declassification of NIS

REF: Memo from State NIS Coordinator to  
Chairman, NIS Committee, dated 14 January 1963

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1. [REDACTED] was informed by telephone that one cannot declassify an NIS manuscript by removing all NIS markings and stamping it "Official Use Only." Even if it could be done, we are not authorized to do this without going back to the contributor who would in turn need to go back to his source.

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2. The only alternative found by conversations with you and [REDACTED] would be to prepare two drafts: one sanitized by deletion of all classified material, and the other complete draft containing classified material. This would complicate production in both agencies and delay their progress on the current schedule.

3. All of our draft sections are labeled as tentative and not to be reproduced in any form until processing is completed. Were we to authorize retention of these drafts as file copies, they would be incomplete and perhaps misleading. None of the NIS is to be released to local [REDACTED] employees. 25X1C8a

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4. I suggested that [REDACTED] might want to prepare a polite reply to both [REDACTED] that I would like to review whatever draft he proposes to send to the field. 25X1A9a

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5. Both [REDACTED] and I saw some possibility in the alternative suggested. Lester said he would again request the Foreign Reporting Staff in the Bureau of Economic Affairs to incorporate NIS requirements into those that govern regular economic reporting. This seems to settle the matter and no NIS Committee action is indicated.

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